

1/6/70

Inv 3-13:2-3

If it was desired to keep Brain out of Dallas for a while, this was a perfect way of doing it (I do not know this to have been the case, but it was the effect). It is true, as Hoover never indicates, that the Dallas police had a hangup on the FBI, one of the rare cases it shows (and Curry doesn't even hide it in his book), but there is no reason to believe they referred Brain to Hoover, for example. FBI custody should have satisfied them. And they knew damned well Brain wasn't sleeping in a safe with this evidence. So, I just wonder a little if Hoover had something going here I do not detect.

The possible inference of the third paragraph is that Rankin desired the clothing not to be in Dallas for that trial.

The explanations of the phone numbers, seemingly forthcoming, are not.

What was Oswald doing with "the general telephone number for the City of Dallas" after he had been frisked and stripped? The most obvious suggestion is that this is the number through which the jail phone he had available to him worked, which tends to corroborate the repeated rumors of a special phone call he is alleged to have made. If it were the number on which he could be called, then, of course, he should have had it. But this also means eavesdropping on him was child's play.

And why was not McDermid's number in his pocket—the whole slip of paper allegedly given him, with the number and the message? This lack seems to debunk the police claim to have given him the message.

I do not know whether or not Abt is in the Freedman & Unger law firm firm. If he is not, then it strikes me as strange Oswald didn't have it in his possession when shot, for he had never been told Abt would not take the case. If Abt is not in that firm, we have no explanation for this number, and never having been alleged to have called it.

Strange how there is never an explanation that really explains or that doesn't raise new, unanswered questions.